U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/566,085 Response filed February 25, 2010 Reply to OA dated November 2, 2009

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 7, 8, 15 and 18 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 3, 4 and 6, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently amended): A biologically pure culture of Lactobacillus casei strain FERM BP-10059 (FERM P-19443).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A lactobacillus preparation comprising:

<u>freeze-dried bacterial cells or wet bacterial cells of the biologically pure culture of</u> the Lactobacillus casei strain according to claim 3; and

a preservative.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently amended): A preventative or therapeutic agent against infections in humans, animals and plants comprising:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/566,085** Response filed February 25, 2010 Reply to OA dated November 2, 2009

purified bacterial cells or freeze-dried cells of the biologically pure culture of the

Lactobacillus casei strain of claim 3; and

an antibiotic.

Claims 7-20 (Canceled).